



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Michael Sentance
State Superintendent of Education

January 3, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Michael Sentance *MS*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

Each year more than 1.3 million children are reported missing. Law enforcement, citizens, and even children have been instrumental in keeping children safe and returning them home to their families, community, and school. Every year the U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ) takes time to commemorate the valiant and unselfish acts of the many organizations and individuals who bring our missing children home. On May 25, 2017, National Missing Children's Day, we pause to focus our attention on children who have been recovered, as well as the children who are still missing.

Each year the DOJ sponsors a national poster contest and announces the winner at the annual National Missing Children's Day Ceremony in Washington, D. C. The winner of this national contest, along with his or her teacher, and parents are flown to Washington to participate in this special ceremony. I invite you to join us in our efforts to educate children across the country about safety issues by giving our **fifth-grade students** an opportunity to participate in this poster contest. The theme for the poster contest is "**Bring Our Missing Children Home.**"

We hope that your system will join in this exciting and important national competition. A suggested timeline for school-level and system-level contests is attached. Please note that the deadline for each local education agency (LEA) to submit system-level winners to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is **February 24, 2017**. The single winning poster for the state of Alabama will then be submitted to the DOJ for final judging. The state winner will be recognized at Alabama's State Board of Education meeting.

If you have any questions or need additional information about this important national contest, please send an e-mail to mc.day2012@fvtc.edu or contact Dr. Carolyn E. Townsend by telephone at (334) 353-1191 or via e-mail at ctownsend@alsde.edu. A complete packet of information can be found at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/poster-contest-resources/>. Please share this information with all fifth grade teachers in your system. Thank you in advance for your support. Together we can insure the safety and security of children across the country.

MS:CET:SMR
Attachments
FY17-2025

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Michael Sentance
Secretary and
Executive Officer



2017 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Guideline and Fact Sheet

Contest Rules

- Applicants **must** be in the fifth grade.
- Artwork should reflect the theme "Bring Our Missing Children Home." This phrase **must** appear somewhere on the poster. The theme may be depicted in the students' artwork through one illustration or a combination of illustrations (e.g., signs and symbols, people, abstract, industry, wildlife, etc.)
- The theme must be depicted visually and can be created using media such as acrylics, watercolor, pencils, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons, and pastels. Digitally produced images, collages, cut-outs, and stamping **will not** be eligible for consideration.
- The finished poster **must** measure 8½ x 14 inches.
- The poster must be submitted with a **completed** application, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist, either written legibly or typed.

Competition Procedures

- **Retrieve contest information** at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/poster-contest-resources/>.
- **Contact your state poster contest manager.** You may find this information online at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/state-contest-managers/>.

Awards

At the state level

- The single **state** winner will be selected by the state poster contest manager. **Please contact your state poster contest manager** for details about your state's selection process.

At the national level

- The single **national** winner, his/her teacher and parents, and the state contest manager will be brought to Washington, DC, to participate in the National Missing Children's Day ceremony with the U.S. Department of Justice on or around **May 25, 2017**. Transportation and lodging will be provided. The national winner will also receive a national award certificate, a United States Savings Bond, and a copy of his/her poster. The winner and one parent will be invited back to the next year's ceremony to present the award to the 2018 winner.

Winning Poster

1. The winning poster (original and copies) becomes the property of the Department of Justice and will be displayed at the Department of Justice, congressional offices, and other locations as determined by the Youth Development, Prevention & Safety Division and the Department of Justice. Any applicable copyrights will be held by those offices.

2. The winning poster may be used in publications, exhibits, and displays, and on websites, as determined by the Youth Development, Prevention & Safety Division and the Department of Justice.
3. The winning poster will be presented as the national symbol for the 2018 Missing Children's Day ceremony and associated activities.
4. Photos of the winner and his/her poster will be available through the Youth Development, Prevention & Safety Division and the Department of Justice and will be posted wherever contest information is available.

Contest Dates

1. **October 2016 – Contest Kick-Off**
 - a. Begin discussing safety issues with students.
 - b. Provide poster contest information to fifth grade students.
2. **January 13, 2017**
 - a. Suggested conclusion date for local, regional, and state competitions.
 - b. Please contact your state contest manager for details.
3. **March 16, 2017**
 - a. Deadline for the state winning contest package to be received by OJJDP.
4. **April 2017**
 - a. National winner notified by OJJDP.
 - b. Travel arrangements are initiated for attendance at the National Missing Children's Day ceremony.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please send an email to mc.day@fvtc.edu. Packet information can be found at <http://mecptraining.org/poster-contest/>.



Attention 5th Graders!

We welcome your participation in the U.S. Department of Justice's National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

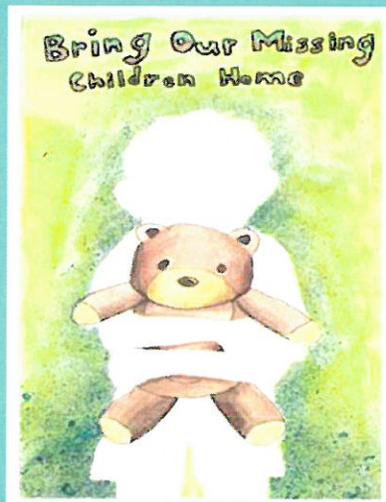
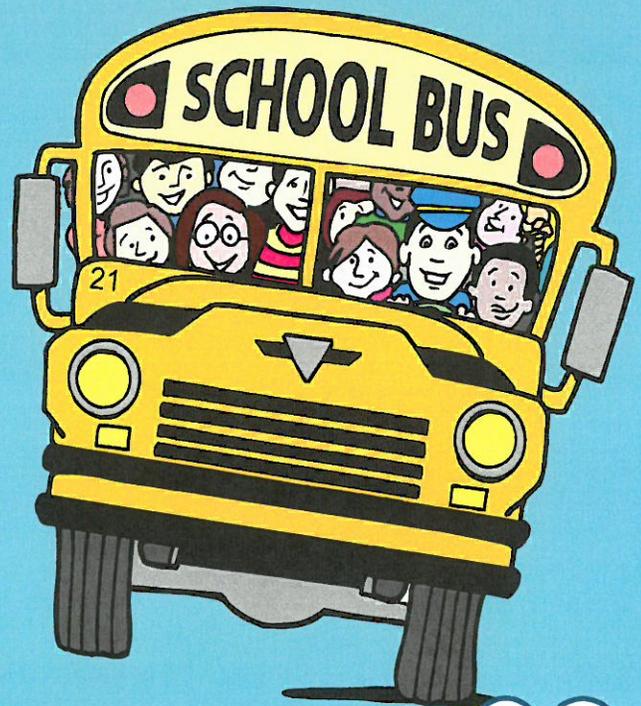
You, your parents, and teacher could win a trip to Washington, D.C.!

Contest Rules

Students must create a poster that demonstrates the theme **"Bring Our Missing Children Home"**.

- ❖ The finished poster must be 8 ½ x 14 inches.
- ❖ The slogan *"Bring Our Missing Children Home"* must appear somewhere on the poster.
- ❖ Posters must be created by hand. Posters with printed images, collages, and stamping are not eligible.
- ❖ Posters should be original in design. Be creative! Use acrylics, watercolor, pencil, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons, pastels, and etc. To view previous artwork, visit: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/programs/postercontest/>
- ❖ The poster must be submitted with a completed application, which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist.
- ❖ **Posters must be submitted to your state contest manager for local judging.**

Find out how to contact your state manager by visiting: www.mecptraining.org/poster-contest



"The child is missing. The teddy bear symbolizes something familiar: home. The child is hugging the teddy bear because he wants to be home again, back in familiar surroundings."

*-Michael W., California
2016 National Winner*



2017 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Application

2016 Winning Entry

Name: _____

Age: _____

School: _____

Phone: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Educator's Name: _____

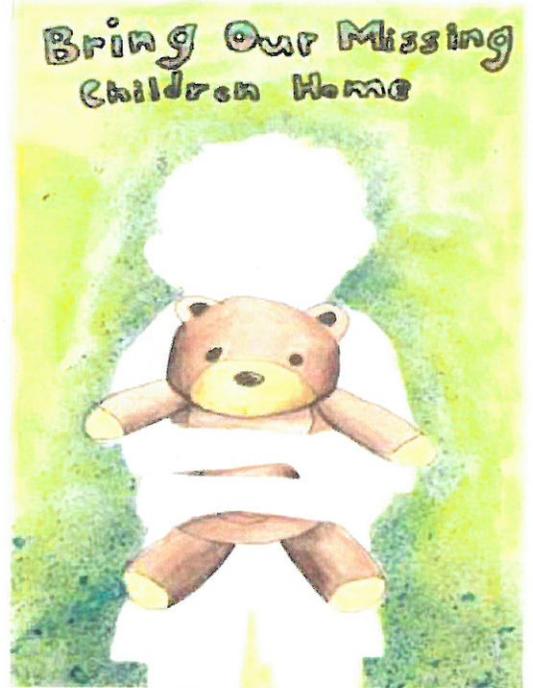
Educator's Email: _____

Salutation (circle one): Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.

Principal's Name: _____

Principal's Email: _____

Salutation (circle one): Mr. / Mrs. / Ms.



Michael W., Walnut, California

Tell us about your poster and why you created it (100 words or less):

“Biography” — Tell us about yourself (100 words or less):

Poster Checklist*

Contest Requirements	Completed	Requires More Work
Size: 8 ½ x 14 inches		
Contains the phrase “Bring Our Missing Children Home”		
Artwork <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Original design ■ Does <u>NOT</u> contain digitally produced images, collages, cut-outs or stamping 		
Picture Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not to exceed 100 words ■ Complete sentences ■ Clearly written or typed ■ Language appropriate for 5th grader 		
Student Biography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Not to exceed 100 words ■ Complete sentences ■ Clearly written or typed ■ Language appropriate for 5th grader 		
Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>ALL</u> contact information provided ■ Application glued or taped to back of poster 		

*Use the checklist to make sure your poster is complete and meets ALL of the guidelines.

RELEASE AND CONSENT

I hereby grant permission to use and reproduce the picture of my child, _____, and use my name in U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention related publications, news features, blogs, or other advertisements relating to the 2017 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest. I also grant permission for my child to participate in any interviews with media relating to this event. I understand that any written statements may be edited or used, in whole or in part, or adapted with other materials, and I hereby waive all rights of privacy, compensation, control, or royalties that I may have.

I have read this document before signing below and warrant that I fully understand its contents.

Name of Parent/Guardian
(Please Print)

Signature

Address

Date

City

State

Zip

(_____) _____
Phone Number

Email



THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE
2017 National Missing Children's Day Poster
Contest

This certificate is awarded to:

Educator:

Date: